

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A hitch-aligning system attachable to a trailer having a tongue with a forward end that includes a coupling for guiding said coupling to a towing vehicle's trailer hitch, said hitch-aligning system comprising:

a) an elongated plate having opposed ends, said plate being transversely attachable to said trailer such that said plate ends are extendable outwardly from opposite sides of said tongue;

b) a cable winch attachable adjacent one plate end and a cable attachment point on the other plate end; and

c) a cable having one end connected to said winch and a second end that is releasibly attachable to said cable attachment point, whereby said cable attachment point and a cable tension point where the cable departs said winch are equidistantly separated from the trailer's centerline by a distance that is at least a multiple larger than said trailer coupling to cause a triangulating action that automatically aligns said trailer coupling with the towing vehicle's trailer hitch, whenever said cable is under tension between said winch and trailer hitch and between said trailer hitch and said cable attachment point.

2. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 1, further including a pulley rotatably coupled to a pulley housing that includes a releasable hitch attachment member for connecting said cable to the towing vehicle's hitch.

3. (previously presented) The hitch aligning system of claim 2, wherein said releasable hitch attachment member is a hook sized to fit around a neck of a ball type hitch on the towing vehicle.

4. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 1, wherein a plurality of U-bolts secure said plate to said trailer tongue.

5. (previously presented) The hitch aligning system of claim 1, wherein said cable second end includes a cable hook for securing said cable second end to said plate's cable attachment point.

6. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 5, wherein said cable attachment point is a hole sized to accommodate said cable hook.

7. (currently amended) A trailer that is automatically guidable to a towing vehicle, said trailer comprising:

a) a trailer frame with a longitudinal centerline, said frame having a rearward section with wheels and a forward section that includes a forward extendable tongue ending with a trailer hitch coupling, said tongue and coupling being aligned with said longitudinal centerline;

b) an elongated plate having opposed ends, said plate being transversely attachable to said trailer such that said plate ends are extendable outwardly from opposite sides of said tongue;

c) a cable winch attachable adjacent one plate end and a cable attachment point on the other plate end; and

d) a cable having one end connected to said winch and a second end that is releasibly attachable to said cable attachment point, whereby said cable attachment point and a cable tension point where the cable departs said winch are equidistantly separated from the trailer's centerline by a distance that is at least a multiple larger than said trailer coupling to cause a

triangulating action that automatically aligns said trailer coupling with the towing vehicle's trailer hitch, whenever said cable is under tension between said winch and trailer hitch and between said trailer hitch and said cable attachment point; and

e) a pulley rotatably coupled to a pulley housing that includes a hook sized to fit around a neck of a ball type hitch on the towing vehicle for connecting said cable to the towing vehicle's hitch.

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The trailer of claim 8 7, wherein said cable second end includes an attached cable hook for securing said cable second end to said plate's cable attachment point.

11. (original) The trailer of claim 7, wherein said plate is attached to said trailer tongue by at least one metallurgic weld.

12. (currently amended) A hitch-aligning system attachable to a trailer having a tongue with a forward end that includes a coupling for guiding said coupling to a towing vehicle's trailer hitch, said hitch-aligning system comprising:

a) an elongated plate having opposed ends, said plate being transversely attachable to said trailer such that said plate ends are extendable outwardly from opposite sides of said tongue;

b) a cable winch attachable adjacent one plate end and a cable attachment point on the other plate end;

c) a cable having one end connected to said winch and a second end that is releasibly attachable to said cable attachment point, whereby said cable attachment point and a cable tension point where the cable departs said winch are equidistantly separated from the trailer's centerline by a distance that is at least a multiple larger than said trailer coupling; and

d) a pulley rotatably coupled to a pulley housing that includes a releasable hitch attachment member for connecting said cable to the towing vehicle's hitch to cause a triangulating action that automatically aligns said trailer coupling with the towing vehicle's trailer hitch, whenever said cable is under tension between said winch and trailer hitch and between said trailer hitch and said cable attachment point; and

e) a pulley rotatably coupled to a pulley housing that includes a hook sized to fit around a neck of a ball type hitch on the towing vehicle for connecting said cable to the towing vehicle's hitch.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 12, wherein a plurality of U-bolts secure said plate to said trailer tongue.

15. (original) The trailer of claim 12, wherein said plate is attached to said trailer tongue by at least one metallurgic weld.

16. (currently amended) The hitch aligning system of claim 12, wherein said cable ~~free~~ second end includes a cable hook for securing said cable ~~free~~ second end to said plate's cable attachment point.

17. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 12, wherein said cable attachment point is a hole sized to accommodate said cable hook.

18. (original) The hitch aligning system of claim 12, wherein said cable winch is manually operated by way of a hand crank handle.

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)